

GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



GIG45-Cast Out The Ruler Of This World

Welcome to the podcast. Today, I want to talk about some things that have emerged in discussions that I've had with individuals over the last several months. And their question seems to be, how involved are we to be in national, political and government upheaval that we see around us, as we live through these days of transition into the kingdom of God? I know this is a question for people in North America, and probably many other parts of the world, where people are allowed into the process of their government.

But what do we do as believers? How do we engage? What are we to be engaged with? I think that this is really a dynamic subject that we should discuss, and see if we can find some scriptural biblical teaching that helps us to understand where we are.

We know that we are in this time when God is bringing forth His kingdom onto this Earth. Christ will continue to bring his kingdom to the Earth. And simultaneously, we see that the ruler of this world, the devil, is emphatic and fully determined to stop God from seating Christ on his Earthly throne, to establish the Messianic Kingdom.

Now the devil seeks to continue his reign permanently as the ruler of this world, establishing his kingdom of darkness on the Earth, installing his sons on the throne to reign over all mankind. In Matthew chapter 13, Christ paints a picture of this struggle in the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares, a parable really that is simple enough for a child to understand. And at some point, I'd like to get in to teaching about that.

But in this podcast, I really want to look scripturally at this idea that the current world we live in is under the influence and rulership of the devil, to help us really understand our part in Yeshua's declaration that the ruler of this world will be cast out. So we begin the discussion in John the 12th chapter, starting at verse 31. Christ says, "Now judgment is upon this world, now the ruler of this world will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the Earth will draw all men to myself." But he was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which he was to die.

Again, we remember that this is Yeshua, Jesus making this statement, and it is by his declaration that he said the world is under judgment at this time, and that the ruler of this world will be cast out. So he refers to the devil as the ruler of this world.

He also states that the world now is under judgment. Of course, we know it's under judgment because of his life and because of his crucifixion. He goes on to say, "If I'm lifted up from the Earth, I'll draw all men to myself." Now this is talking about the death he was to die, but it's also talking about the resurrection and about his ascension.

In the ascension, he was lifted up from the Earth. And in that process of his ascension into the heavens to establish the kingdom of heaven, we know that there is something that must transpire in the drawing of all men to himself. I think this is partially speaking of the oneness that we must as the body of Christ, as believers, have and come into, in order for this casting out of the ruler of this world.

But let's go on into the other scriptures where Yeshua himself makes these statements. We'll go to John the 14th chapter, and start at verse 29. "Now, I have told you before it happens, so that when it

happens you may believe. I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in me. But so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded me. Get up. Let us go from here."

And I think that's a good admonition. Let's get up and go from here. Let's go from this place where we've existed and let's move into this timeframe that we know is just ahead of us, where we see the establishment of the kingdom of Christ on this Earth.

I also want to read John 16, and we'll start at verse seven. "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And he, when he comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment. Concerning sin, because they do not believe in me, concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer see me. And concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged."

Notice that tense of the verb, "Has been judged." So if he has been judged, if the ruler has been judged, then why are we talking about his judgment? Why are we talking about his casting out?

Well, because the fact that the judgment is finalized from the cross, it's finalized once the judgment is written. But as the things of the cross, they must be applied. Christ won absolutely the victory over death, over sin, on the cross, but it must be applied. You in your life must apply it to you, you must believe, you must confess with your mouth, you must believe in your heart that he came and that these things transpired. And when you do that, then you are applying the victory and you are applying what took place and transpired on the cross.

So the judgment has been written. The ruler of this world in that sense has been judged. But what we're talking about is the execution and the finalization of that judgment that has taken place. We see an illustration of this in Psalm 149, at verse nine. It says, "To execute on them the judgments written. This is an honor for all of his godly ones. Praise the Lord."

So there has to be the execution of the judgment. It has been written, but it must be executed. The victory of the cross has been won, but it likewise must be executed in your life. Christ died on the cross long before you became a believer. But his work on the cross was executed in your life, the moment you believed. But without that faith and without that confession, that judgment was merely written, that victory was merely written in the scriptures, but it had no efficacy in your life.

So this is what the scripture is talking about, the ruler of this world has been judged. But that judgment that has been written by virtue of the Word of God in the prophecies, by virtue of the actions of Christ in the cross, by virtue of the reality of God raising him from the dead, and by virtue of Christ having ascended to the right hand of the Father, these things have been done. Now, our concern is their execution in our day, in this time in which we live. I hope that's clear to you, because you've got to grasp and see the difference between something having been written and something having been executed.

I want to go now to second Corinthians, and I want to keep on this track of the fact that he is called the ruler of this world. He is called many things, and we must see and recognize that there is then, even though Christ has been raised, even though he is at the right hand of the Father, there is still this reality, as the scripture states it, that the devil is the prince of the power of the air. He is the ruler of this age, and that is what we are here dealing with in this podcast.

So in second Corinthians four, starting at verse three, it says, "And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." So once again, we see that the victory on the cross is won.

And yet Paul is dealing with the reality that the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving. So when we witness to people, this is what we're warring against, we're warring against this unbelief that they have because their eyes are blinded, their hearts are blinded, their minds are blinded by the god of this world. So He has a very real impact and influence in this world as the ruler of the world, as the god of this world. And that again, is what we find that God is bringing us to a point of dealing with.

But first, we have to see that the truth of this exists. In Ephesians two, we go on to say, "You were dead in your trespasses and sin, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience." So we may see ourselves in this world, surrounded by sons of disobedience, but we know that it is because they are going in the course of this world, which is influenced and manipulated by the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is at work. So it's the spirit.

And oftentimes, this is a dilemma for us because we see things through our natural eyes, we see things transpiring around us in the natural world. But we must realize and understand, as prophets of God, as men and women of God, as believers in Christ, that what is transpiring around us on a natural level is taking place because it is being influenced and manipulated by the world of spirit, by the ruler of this world, by the prince of the power of the air, these spiritual forces that are at work. This is what we are left to deal with.

So we see, yes, there are sons of disobedient, yes, there are people involved. And that's why we question, how do we react? What do we do? Do we get involved with the government? Do we work with what we see happening in the world? Do we try to come against the lies that are being established in this world through cancel culture, and other forms of culture around us, in the woke culture? All of these things are real people doing very real acts, and functioning in this world to impact the world and impact certainly the young generations as they're coming up. But what do we do? How do we engage? We must first understand this idea that it is the spirit world, it is the ruler of this world that is really the problem.

So we go on, in first John, chapter five, verse 19 it says, "We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one." So the whole world lies under the power of evil. That's a very powerful verse. It's a powerful statement for us to realize, this is what we are up against in this day and age we live in.

And we are in this conflict where God is in the process of establishing his Messiah, Christ, on the throne, on the Earth. And the ruler of this world is fighting it to remain in power and influence over the world that we see.

So how could God allow the devil to have rulership and influence over the Earth and over mankind? Well, it goes back to the Garden of Eden. God created man with freewill. He did not create us to be robots, just following his commandments. His end game was to have sons that would be obedient from the heart, and would serve him, motivated by their love for their father.

We look at Romans 8:15 and we see that that is the truth that he planned on raising up sons, and he put in our heart this cry of a father. So this is a process that is to transpire and is transpiring. This is what Christ did, and it is why he was well pleasing to the Father.

Adam and Eve, on the other hand, chose to disobey God and to be influenced and obedient to the devil. This made the devil their father. I know that seems harsh language, but we must understand the depth of influence that came in their lives via this choice to listen to and be obedient to the devil rather than to the Father.

So Christ is the one who put it in this terminology. In John, chapter eight, verse 44, he says, "You are of your father, the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is lie and the father of lies."

So we see that the devil, the god of this age, the ruler of this world, is a lie. We see ourselves surrounded by lies and people who become liars. And that's what happened with Adam and Eve. Adam tried to lie his way out of what he had done, blaming it on Eve.

But what happened was, they chose a different father. And in their obedience, something transpired. Adam and Eve, who were created to become sons of God and rule over the Earth in obedience to God, from a heart of love, chose the devil as their father. In doing so, they handed over to him influence of their lives, and in their lives. And also they handed to him the rulership over the Earth, which God had given to them.

In Genesis 1:26 it says, "Then God said, let us make man in our own image according to our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the cattle and over all the Earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the Earth." So how did he become the ruler of this world? How did he become the god of this age? It was handed to him by Adam and Eve. And since Adam and Eve, it's been handed to him by everyone who gives their life to be influenced and to be directed by him, rather than by God.

And in the process, what are you giving over? You're giving over the commission which God originally intended for man. God originally intended for man to become mature into sonship and to rule over all the Earth, over the sea, over the sky, the birds, everything, they were to rule over all the Earth.

But when we submitted ourselves, when Adam and Eve submitted themselves, when we as sinners submitted ourselves to the devil and his influence, we gave to him our birthright which God had given to us as those who, under his lordship of the Messiah, would rule over all the Earth. So that's how we come to find that the devil is in fact the ruler of this world. It's a tragic, tragic thing.

But not only do we have the victory of Christ on the cross, but we see this process of the bringing forth of the kingdom includes the release of the Earth back into the hands of God's sons. So because of their freewill of choice, God blocked access to the tree of life, and he cursed the Earth with futility. This was the results, there's consequence to sin. Death was a consequence of sin. Futility that's on the Earth right now is a consequence of sin. Satan being enabled as the ruler of this age is a consequence of our disobedience.

So we know, however, that God has a victorious plan. And in that plan, Christ opened the door of eternal life through his resurrection. We also know that the sons of God which are coming forth, will release the Earth from the curse of futility. We find that again in Romans eight, starting at verse 24, "For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected in hope." Remember, God did this. God did it as the consequence of their disobedience.

Verse 21, "That the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption, into the freedom of the glory of the children of God." So Christ in his resurrection opened up the door of eternal life and ended the block which God had put on the tree of life, so that no man could reach into it. Now the door is open for us to reach for the tree of life, to reach in to eternal life in Christ.

And also, we will see deliverance to all of the Earth, because the Earth will be set free from its futility by the sons of God as they are coming forth. So we see this great drama that's playing out around us. I know it's hard sometimes to keep this in front of our minds and in our thinking, because we walk through our day, and we're caught up in the physical plane of the world. We see everything on a natural level, and we see things on a natural plane.

But we must have this understanding. And as we gain this understanding, and we're able to keep it alive in our hearts and minds, then there's steps that we take. The first we must do is realize that the devil was eliminated from heaven in Romans 12, verse eight. I mean in Revelations 12, verse eight. I encourage you to read that.

And he was eliminated out of heaven, because there was no longer a place found for him in heaven. Now remember, if we go back to the Book of Job, we see that Satan seems to have free access into the heavenlies, access to speak to God. And we know that he's the accuser of the brethren, who accuses them before the throne of God, day and night. So we see that there was this total access that the devil not only had over the Earth, because of what Adam and Eve did, but he had this also access into heaven, which was probably also access that we as humans were to have to God, in his love and grace.

But first of all, we must realize that something has transpired due to the cross, the resurrection and the ascension of Christ, that there was war in heaven. That was the first war that was fought, the first battle that was fought and won, and Satan was removed from heaven, because there was no longer a place found for him.

I encourage you again, Revelations 12, verse eight, read it, read the whole story and get the picture of what really has transpired there. There is no longer a place found in heaven. What is our first step, if we're going to engage in this war that's taking place in our generation?

Then the first thing we can do as believers is to make sure that we personally are not giving the devil any room, any place in our spirit, soul, body. We must not give him room either. As Yeshua said, "The wicked one comes, but he has nothing in me." There was nothing of access that he had within Christ. Therefore, Christ was able to do the will of God in going to the cross and fulfilling his ministry.

We likewise as a first step must realize, we have to rid ourselves from any openness and any influence and any obedience that we've had in our life ever to the wicked one, to the devil. It's not enough just to have our sin forgiven. If we're going to engage in this process of casting him out of the Earth, as he was cast out of heaven, there must be no access that he has to us.

Next, we must understand that this is a war. It's a war between the Messiah King and the ruler of this world, a war that was won at the cross, and that victory must now be executed. We as the sons of God, under the Lordship of Christ are involved in this warfare.

You say, "Why? How can we affect anything in this spiritual warfare that's transpiring? Why must we be involved? Why can't Christ just bring his angels and come and execute the victory himself?" No, we must be involved. As sons of God under the Lordship of Christ, we're involved in this warfare, because a redeemed mankind must be reinstated to rule over the Earth.

See, it goes back to Genesis 1:26, where man was to rule over the Earth. The devil is not supposed to rule over the Earth, and Christ rules as the King. We rule with him in his messianic kingdom. We see this issue of restoration in the third chapter, starting at verse 20 it says, "And that he may send Jesus the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from ancient times."

There must be the restoration of all things. And one of the biggest issues of restoration that remains is that mankind, moving as God's children, as his beloved, as his sons, as those given to him under the Lordship of Christ must be reinstated, reinstated as those who are given by God the rulership over this Earth. That must be put back in place.

Sometimes we wonder, "Gosh, why does this take so long?" The cross happened over 2,000 years ago, and we know the victory was won, and we know that in the parable Christ goes into heaven to get a kingdom and come back. Why is it taking him so long to get the kingdom and come back? We read in

Revelations, the war of the heavens was won, and that there was no place found for the devil, and he was cast down to Earth and now his only domain is here.

But see, he still has that rule over the Earth. Why? Because that has to be repossessed by God's children coming forth in their obedience. Christ was the firstborn among many brethren. And he served the Father with all of his heart, he chose God as his Father. We must come back in our salvation and choose again.

What does it say about Christ? It says that he restored us to the Father, he restored us to the Father. We must see the Father restored as the Father over us, as our Lord. And Christ as our Messiah must exist then as the king of all the Earth, but we must rule the Earth, we must rule and reign with Him, as it has been stated by the mouth of all the prophets. So we see that he must remain in the heavens, until the restoration of all the things that must be restored until his return is enabled.

Romans, the fifth chapter, starting at verse 17 says, "For if by the transgression of the one death reign through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one Jesus Christ." We are to reign through him. And that is what this is about.

Second Timothy two, starting verse 11 says, "It is a trustworthy statement. For if we died with him, we will also live with him. If we endure, we will also reign with him. If we deny him, he also will deny us." Revelations 20, verse six says, "Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection. Over these, the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and will reign with him for 1,000 years."

There is no question that we are to reign with God. We are to reign with Christ as Messiah King on the Earth. That was God's original intention back in Genesis, that must be restored.

Okay, let's look at a picture of this warfare, so that we can see how it's transpiring again. It manifests very much on a natural level and it goes back to that question, do we engage on a natural level? What do we do as humans in this Earth? How do we function? What is our part to play if we have to be engaged in this warfare? What does that mean for us? How do we do that?

Let's see the picture that Daniel paints. In Daniel seven, starting at verse 16 it says, "I approached one of those who were standing by and began asking him the exact meaning of all of this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things. These great beasts, which are four in number are four kings who will arise from the Earth, but the saints of the highest one will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever and all ages to come. We will make it. We have the promise of victory, and in the blood of Christ, by the blood of his cross, by the victory that he won, by the resurrection through the power of God to raise him from the dead. We will possess the kingdom forever. There will be the restoration of man over the Earth in the kingdom."

Verse 19, "Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the four beasts, which was different, from the fourth beast, which was different from all the others. Exceedingly dreadful, and with teeth of iron and claws of bronze, which devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet. And the meaning of the 10 horns that were on its head, and the other horn, which came up. Before three of them fell, namely the horn, which had eyes and a mouth, uttering great boasts and which was larger in appearance than its associates."

"I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints, and overpowering them, until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was passed in favor of the saints, of the highest one. And the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom."

We know that the victory is won, we know that these things happen on a very natural level. And that's why I'm reading this. Yes, there will be kings, yes, there will be people, rulers, these things will transpire on a natural level. And that is what Satan's purpose is. He is the ruler of this world.

And his drive is to have sons that he manipulates into the warfare against the purposes of God in the Earth, and to bring those people against the sons of God. And we're facing that and we will face it, we will face persecution, we will face these things on a very real physical level. But we must always remember, this is not where we engage. We don't engage with people. We engage with the spirit reality that we've been clarifying here in this podcast.

Verse 25, "He will speak out against the most high and wear down the saints of the highest one. And he will intend to make alterations in times, in laws, and they will be given into his hands for time, times and half a time. But the court will sit for judgment, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever. Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the highest one. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey him."

What a phenomenal victory that we receive in these things. So we thank the Lord for it and what he's doing. Okay. So a very natural level, battle takes place. We know that, and we see it around us now in this day and age. And again, how do we engage with it? What do we engage with?

Let's look at Matthew, the 16th chapter, verse 17. "And Jesus said, Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven, I also say to you that you are Peter. And upon this rock, I will build my church and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. We will not be overpowered. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatever you bind on Earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on Earth shall have been loosed in heaven."

Now remember, the heaven is bound, and the heaven is loosed, according to revelations. Satan is cast out. That battle is won. And so what do we do? We bind over the Earth to be in oneness with what is and as it exists in heaven. We bring the Earth into compliance. Why? Because that's what our ministry is. That's what the commission was to mankind, it was to rule over the Earth.

And so this expression that we bind the spirits, we bind the things that are coming against the kingdom of God, in the spiritual world of the demonic that has established itself as the prince of the power of the air, that has established itself as the ruler of this world. We take authority over it in the name of Yahusha HaMashiach. And we bind these things so that it is on Earth, as it is in heaven.

This is why Christ taught his disciples to pray in this way, pray this, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on this Earth, as it is now in heaven." That's the prayer. But it's more than that. It's the prophetic proclamation. It is the ability to bind, knowing that he himself gives unto us the keys to the kingdom, so that whatever we bind on this Earth is bound. He has won the victory. Are we re-winning the victory? No, he won the victory, but we are executing the victory. We're executing those judgments written against the devil, as the prince of the power of the air, and all of the spirits of wickedness in heavenly places.

Let's go to Mark 3:23. "And he called them to himself and began speaking to them in parables. How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, the kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. If Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but he's finished. But no one can enter the strong man's house and plunder his property unless he first binds the strong man and then plunders his house."

We must bind the strong man, and then plunder his house. What is his house? This Earth. He thinks it's his. It's ours. He thinks it's his, it's Christ's. The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. That's the

reality. We plunder what he has usurped through our disobedience and sin. We execute the judgments which have been written, and we see that he is removed. We must remember these verses, because it's based on our ability to find oneness.

Remember, a house divided itself against itself cannot stand. That's our households and families personally, as well as the household of God. I pray, God, bring oneness to your church, get us out of the division, get us out of the infighting. Get us out of all of those things that are coming upon us.

I'll tell you why they're coming upon us. Because Satan needs to keep us divided. He needs to keep the sons of God from coming forth. Because as soon as they come forth, and we move in oneness, then we realize we have the authority to bind him.

I'm going to read one more scripture out of Ephesians, the sixth chapter, starting at verse 10. "Finally, be strong in the Lord and the strength of his might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil, for our struggle is not against flesh and blood."

Remember this. We are not fighting people. We are not fighting flesh and blood. Are flesh and blood engaged in the warfare? Absolutely. Are they doing horrible things? Absolutely. We don't fight that. That is not our battle.

People belong to God. They're his creation. We forgive as we were forgiven, we commit them back to him. That is not where our battle is. Our battle, as this says, is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything to stand firm, stand firm, therefore. Having girded your loins with the truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel in peace, in addition to taking up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one, and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God.

And with all prayer and petition, pray at all times in the spirit. And with this in view, beyond the alert with all perseverance, and petition for all the saints, we must have this. This ability to pray, to speak into the spirit world, to speak in tongues, to bring our petition, to bring our prophecies, to bring our prayers to bear against these world forces of darkness, until we see them bound and brought down. Paul said, "And pray also on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth to make known with boldness, the mystery of the gospel, for which I'm an ambassador, and we likewise are ambassadors."

So we come to the end of this with points important to remember. We are to be involved with educational, governmental policies, with politics, with world events. Absolutely. We must speak up. We must speak as ambassadors of the kingdom of God. Don't feel like we're not to be engaged. We can no longer afford, in this age, a silent majority. We've seen the destruction come in the world, we saw the destruction of the holocaust that came because of a silent majority.

All right. So as we speak up and as we engage, then we must remember how we engage. I'm going to give you three points. Yeshua, Jesus said, "That judgment was upon the world, and now the ruler of this world would be cast out." That is what we do. We cast him out of the world. First, by not having any influence over our life.

Yeshua also said as point two that he would give us the keys to the kingdom, so we would be able to bind and loose on this Earth, and bring this Earth in conformity to the way it is now in heaven. Lastly, very important, we always must remember that our battle is not against flesh and blood. Our

instructions are to bind the spiritual powers, including the ruler of this world, in order to plunder his house, and stop the completion of his plan for destruction of mankind and the world as we know it.

Lord, we ask you to make these words real to our heart. Bless us with the grace and the faith to walk in the day that you've appointed us to live in. I believe this is our destiny. Amen.